

LIMITED SOURCES JUSTIFICATION

ORDER >\$3,000

FAR PART 8.405-6

2237 Transaction # or Vista Equipment Transaction #: 618-13-2-019-0273

This acquisition is conducted under the authority of the Multiple Award Schedule Program. The material or service listed in par. 3 below is sole source, therefore, consideration of the number of contractors required by FAR Subpart 8.4 – Federal Supply Schedules, is precluded for the reasons indicated below.

Restricted to the following source: Provide original manufacturer's name for material or contractor's name for service. (If a sole source manufacturer distributes via dealers, ALSO provide dealer information.)

Manufacturer/Contractor: GE Healthcare

Manufacturer/Contractor POC & phone number: Holly Bickett (612.747.5175) & Sue Weber (651.260.9362)

Mfgr/Contractor Address: GE Medical Systems, PO Box 414 (W-550) Milwaukee, WI 53201

Dealer/Rep address/phone number: _____

☐ The requested material or service represents the minimum requirements of the Government.

(1) AGENCY AND CONTRACTING ACTIVITY:

Department of Veterans Affairs

NCO 23

4801 Veterans Drive

St. Cloud, MN 56303-2099

VISN:

23

(2) NATURE AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF ACTION BEING APPROVED:

A fixed price delivery order for the upgrade of a highly integrated MUSE: Cardiology Information System. This system is a central point for the receipt of electrocardiographs from a variety of equipment types including stress test systems, long term recorders, and diagnostic EKG carts. It is also used for diagnostic interpretation of EKGs by physicians, archive of the EKG's, retrieval of EKG's for later comparison with a more current EKG for a given patient. Given the highly integrated and central nature of this equipment to the cardiology workflow, an upgrade to various components and software is more desirable than outright replacement of the system.

(3) (a) A DESCRIPTION OF THE SUPPLIES OR SERVICES REQUIRED TO MEET THE AGENCY'S NEED:

Acquisition of new hardware, software, and equipment to upgrade the current cardiology information system (MUSE) in the following VISN 23 VA Health Care Systems. Specific technology is listed below:

Black Hills, SD; 14 MAC 5500 Upgrade and MobileLink Installation

Des Moines, IA; 11 MAC 5500 Upgrade and MobileLink Installation

Fargo, ND; 14 MAC 5500 Upgrade and MobileLink Installation

Sioux Falls, SD; 8 MAC 5500 Upgrade and MobileLink Installation

Omaha, NE; 5 MAC 5500 Upgrade and MobileLink Installation, Version 8 Upgrade to MUSE server

Grand Island, NE; 1 MAC 5500 Upgrade and MobileLink Installation

Iowa City, IA; 21 MAC 5500 Upgrade and MobileLink Installation

Minneapolis, MN; 25 MAC 5500 Upgrade and MobileLink Installation, Version 8 Upgrade to MUSE server

St. Cloud, MN. 8 MAC 5500 Upgrade and MobileLink Installation

Overall, the new system(s) shall provide state-of-the-art features and functions for cardiology staff that interact with cardiac stress systems, Holter monitors (long term EKG recorders), and diagnostic EKG carts. The upgrade will fully interface with the current cardiac stress, Holter monitors, and EKG carts in VISN 23.

(b) ESTIMATED DOLLAR VALUE: \$ _____

(c) REQUIRED DELIVERY DATE: _____

(4) IDENTIFICATION OF THE JUSTIFICATION RATIONALE (SEE FAR 8.405-6), AND IF APPLICABLE, A DEMONSTRATION OF THE PROPOSED CONTRACTOR'S UNIQUE QUALIFICATIONS TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED SUPPLY OR SERVICE. (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY AND COMPLETE)

☒ Specific characteristics of the material or service that limit the availability to a sole source (unique features, function of the item, etc.). Describe in detail why only this suggested source can furnish the requirements to the exclusion of other sources.

Cardiology is a technology-intensive specialty that uses electrocardiographs obtained from a variety of sources to diagnose and monitor patients. These include cardiac stress testing systems, ambulatory electrocardiogram systems, and diagnostic EKG carts. The cardiology information system is designed to streamline much of the workflow that is created from these systems and full integration is a crucial requirement.

The existing MUSE system has several years of remaining useful life and thus upgrade is preferred to outright replacement for reasons of cost effectiveness and desire to retain as much of the current cardiology workflow as possible. Outright replacement of the MUSE system from any vendor, including GE, would increase the acquisition cost as well as necessitate internal labor expense related to implementation of interfaces to the various EKG acquisition systems. If the MUSE were replaced with a system from a different manufacturer, GE would need to be contracted to transfer archived EKGs to the new system. This approach would additionally increase the timeline for implementation related to this work.

The existing diagnostic EKG carts have several years of remaining useful life. However, it is preferable to add wireless communication to the carts to enable faster transmission of EKG data. The only vendor that can provide the software updates for the wireless functionality on the existing GE carts is GE.

☐ A patent, copyright or proprietary data limits competition. The proprietary data is:
(If FAR 8.405-6(a)(2)iii before posting. Do not include specific proprietary data. Only mention the type of equipment, procedure, etc. to show that proprietary supplies or services are being procured.)

☐ These are "direct replacements" parts/components for existing equipment.

☒ The material/service must be compatible in all aspects (form, fit and function) with existing systems presently installed/performing. Describe the equipment/function you have now and how the new item/service must coordinate, connect, or interface with the existing system.

The system must fully integrate with existing technology used to acquire electrocardiographs including cardiac stress testing systems, ambulatory electrocardiogram systems, and diagnostic EKG carts. The cardiology information system is designed to streamline much of the workflow that is created from these three systems.

☐ The new work is a logical follow-on to an original Federal Supply Schedule order provided that the original order was placed in accordance with the applicable Federal Supply Schedule ordering procedures. The original order must not have been previously issued under sole source or limited source procedures.

☐ An urgent and compelling need exists, and following the ordering procedures would result in unacceptable delays.

(5) DESCRIBE WHY YOU BELIEVE THE ORDER REPRESENTS THE BEST VALUE CONSISTENT WITH FAR 8.4 TO AID THE CONTRACTING OFFICER IN MAKING THIS BEST VALUE DETERMINATION:

The existing MUSE system has several years of remaining useful life and thus upgrade is preferred to outright replacement for reasons of cost effectiveness and desire to retain as much of the current cardiology workflow as possible. Outright replacement of the MUSE system from any vendor, including GE, would increase the acquisition cost as well as necessitate internal labor expense related to implementation of interfaces to the various EKG acquisition systems. If the MUSE were replaced with a system from a different manufacturer, GE would need to be contracted to transfer archived EKGs to the new system. This approach would additionally increase the timeline for implementation related to this work. Recommended equipment involved in the upgrade is offered off of the FSS schedule, which is listed at fixed prices. These prices have been predetermined by the GSA.

(6) DESCRIBE THE MARKET RESEARCH CONDUCTED AMONG SCHEDULE HOLDERS AND THE RESULTS OR A STATEMENT OF THE REASON MARKET RESEARCH WAS NOT CONDUCTED:

None was completed due to the reasons mentioned above.

(7) ANY OTHER FACTS SUPPORTING THE JUSTIFICATION:

None known.

(8) A STATEMENT OF THE ACTIONS, IF ANY, THE AGENCY MAY TAKE TO REMOVE OR OVERCOME ANY BARRIERS THAT LED TO THE RESTRICTED CONSIDERATION BEFORE ANY SUBSEQUENT ACQUISITION FOR THE SUPPLIES OR SERVICES IS MADE:

None known.
